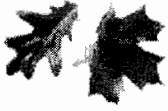


EI-7325



Vicki Rutson/STB
05/22/2008 03:52 PM

To Danielle Gosselin/STB@STB
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: Proposed railroad re-activation

Victoria Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
(202) 245-0295 (phone)
(202) 245-0454 (fax)

----- Forwarded by Vicki Rutson/STB on 05/22/2008 03:52 PM -----



mpupach@americansilk.com
05/20/2008 10:50 AM

To rutsonv@stb.dot.gov
cc
Subject Proposed railroad re-activation

Victoria Rutson
Chief, Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
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Fax: (202)565-9000
Email: rutsonv@stb.dot.gov

RE: Finance Docket No. 35116, RJ Corman Railroad Co., Beech Creek Branch Line
Construction and Operation – between Wallacetown and Gorton, Pennsylvania;
Preliminary Consultation

Dear Ms. Rutson:

Although you are not soliciting public comment at this time, I feel it is important that you know the above referenced request will serve a project that has encountered serious obstacles and fierce opposition. I believe any further study of this request is premature and wasteful of taxpayer funded resources. Consider the following:

- The application for the landfill this rail line would serve has been suspended since October 2006.
- The application for the quarry was deemed deficient in May 2007.
- There is no formal application submitted for a biofuels plant.
- There are four federal agencies on record that have identified environmental issues of concern regarding the project that would be served by this rail line.

If you continue to proceed with this RJ Corman request, it is imperative a full environmental impact statement be

prepared in order to assess the environmental impact of this proposal *and* the project it will serve.

Myself and several friends(girlfriends and wives included) make the trip out to Snow Shoe 2-3 times a year. It may not seem like such a big deal but these are times we greatly enjoy. We live outside of Hazleton but truly appreciate the different scenery when we come out. If this rail line is allowed it will drastically cut out the amount of outdoors to be enjoyed on the rail to trail. I for one do not think I would come out there again. It seems as if others are being thought of instead of the people that live there and in the surrounding areas, as well as the many tourists that come to enjoy the area. Where will the waste come from to fill this landfill? Out of state I would suspect. What is wrong with keeping trash in its own state? It seems as if Pennsylvania is becoming the landfill state, not the keystone state. Please consider the many downfalls to this before making any decisions. Thank you for taking the time to read and listen to this.

Michael Pupach
Harleigh Terrace
Harleigh, Pa. 18225